

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a customer of DIRECTV, I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me local TV channels via satellite in my market area, which I currently do not receive.

Broadband access to the Internet is not available to me at this time. Quest, the provider of telephone lines for my area, acknowledges that our physical lines will not support DSL broadband signals and they have no plans to replace them.

Although AT&T provides cable television in my area, they, too, acknowledge having no plans to implement broadband internet access via cable to my area.

I am a builder and reseller of custom spec computers and have a large customer base here in Sandy, Utah. I can assure you that there is deep frustration felt universally among my clients. They can buy the best, most powerful computers offered by current technology for home or business use, but can only access the internet at the slowest speeds. These slow speeds translate into lost time, with its associated costs- very significant and tangible.

This CAN be overcome by leasing very expensive telephone lines called 'T1' or buy purchasing expensive satellite equipment currently offered by DirecTV (not Dish). Neither of these options is practical for the average consumer in Sandy, UT. (Sandy is a community of approximately 80,000, located at the southern end of the Salt Lake Valley.)

If the merger is approved, the new company will be able to provide me and my clients, as well as all of Sandy and nearby areas, with affordable high-speed Internet access via satellite along with the other 40 million American households who do not have affordable high-speed Internet access now.

I appreciate your consideration and hope that you will support the expedited implementation of this merger.

Sincerely,

Glen Seabury
9706 South 1210 East
Sandy, UT 84094